

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-7, 9-15 and 17 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10-15 and 17, which are independent, are hereby amended. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Support for this amendment is provided at page 15 of the Specification as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 1 and 10-15, and 17, which were objected to because of informalities, are hereby amended, rendering the objection moot.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1, 10-15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“...wherein the retrieval result determines the image data to be delivered in accordance with the retrieval condition and difference information,

wherein difference information is information indicating a difference or a plurality of differences in contents-related information attached to each image data...”

Applicants note that claim 1 generally refers to displaying a simplified image of an image that matches a retrieval condition and/or data regarding a designated item among contents-related information attached to the image, on a screen of the client terminal, for confirmation.

Applicants submit that claim 1 is in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 10-15 and 17 are also believed to be patentable.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 10-15 and 17 are patentable.

CONCLUSION

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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